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Newsletter

Number 20

8 July 2011



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Thanks

.. to parents for your input and support over this very busy term.
 .. to our Rippa Rugby support team - postponement date now 14 July.
 .. to Mrs Witte for coming to watch both Matarau School hockey teams play their games. We appreciated the extra support - both teams won.
 Thanks Mrs Witte.

People of the week

.. Eleanor - player of the day for the Matarau Magic netball team last weekend. Well done Eleanor!
 .. Tyler and Shannon who remained behind after school one day to help finish painting another student's science fair board.
 .. Toby - player of the day last weekend for Kamo / Kauri Gold 7th Grade Soccer. Well done Toby! We are sure your efforts will have contributed to your team's victory.
 .. Max and Luke who were selected "Men of the Match" for their Whangarei Rep team recently.
 .. Andrew, Campbell, Flynn and Reuben who were selected for the Yr 5 & 6 Boys Closed Hockey Trials.
 .. Caitlyn (D grade) & Jessica (E grade) for receiving "Player of the Day" two weeks ago.
 .. Ella (D grade) and Taylor (E grade) for receiving "Player of the Day" last week.
 .. Grace received "Player of the Day" two weeks ago and Olivia "Player of the Day" last week for Matarau Magic.
 .. Michelle received "Player of the Day" two weeks ago and Grace "Player of the Day" last week for Matarau Misfits.
 .. Matarau Intermediate netball team who were recently promoted to Section 1. Well done girls!
 .. Abbi has been the 'Player of the Day' for the last two weeks - sharing it the first week with Georgia.
 .. Jynai's cheerleading team "Fantasy Rockers" came 3rd in an Auckland event last weekend.
 .. Jaxon for kindness to his mother when she was sick this week.
 .. Bradley with a new Whangarei Deep Sea Anglers Junior Club Record for his Skipjack Tuna weighing 3.16kg on 3 kg line.
 Kate and Elliot successfully gained their blue tip belts at Tae Kwando. Also Kate offered to make the lunches for her family because she could see her Mum was stressed. Awesome help
 .. Hannah who played an important role in the recent blessing of the Comrie Park Kindergarten. Hannah was the first person to walk into the new building with her Mum, Janet, and will forever be known as the Puhi (person who lifts a tapu) for Comrie Park Kindergarten. The teachers at Comrie Park really appreciated Hannah getting up at 5:30am to be a part of this day.
Please let the office know of any special achievements so that we can celebrate these together. Also we are keen to hear of shining examples of the kindness virtue .. so .. please keep us informed.

CURRENT VIRTUE .. KINDNESS

Our kindness virtue awards will be presented next week (all going well) and announced in the first newsletter of the new term. We have seen so many examples of kindness in recent weeks these will be difficult calls to make.

Mid Year Ballot for Out of Zone Students

A reminder that the **final date for mid-year enrolment applications is 22 July** with the ballot (if one is necessary) being held 27 July. **If you know of anyone who might be interested please ask them to contact our school office.** We are more than happy to answer any questions and to show people around the school.

Notice from Comrie Park Kindergarten

We are having 2 Open Days next Tuesday 12th & Wednesday 13th July between 10am and 2pm for anyone in the community as well as families and children to come in and have a look around. Hope to see some of you there.

20 Hour Famine

A small number of children have still not returned booklets / money. Please get this to us on Monday so we can bank this. Thank you for supporting this programme.

Forthcoming dates to note

11 July	School Science Fair
11/12 July	Mid year parent / teacher interviews
14 July	Middle School Rippa Rugby Tournament
15 July	Final day of term 2 (1 August 1 st day of term 3)

.. Measles Epidemic ??

Some of you will be aware of a measles outbreak in Auckland. While the numbers are relatively small, there is clear potential for this to spread. The Ministry of Health has requested ..

.. that parents let their child's school know if their child has been recently immunised so that the Immunisation Register can be updated

.. that you contact your GP to arrange immunisation if your child has NOT been immunised (apparently 95% of those immunised are fully protected)

.. that you watch out for symptoms of fever, cough, runny nose, sore red eyes and a rash and contact your child's GP if something warrants investigation.

Parents are also advised that the Medical Officer of Health can require non-immunised children who have had contact with someone who has measles to remain at home for up to 14 days.

Further information can be obtained by phoning Healthline on 0800611116 or the Immunisation Advisory centre on 0800466863.

School Recipe Book

.. is now being compiled. We would still love more recipes or helpful hints and so please send these in to the school office.

After School Reading Labs

Please note that After School Reading Labs will not operate in the final week of term due to parent / teacher interviews and a generally pretty busy week. As a number of parents have expressed interest in the progress of their children in these labs Kevin will make himself available during parent / teacher interviews on 11 and 12 July to share results, discuss specific needs and answer any questions. Interested parents are invited to drop by to Kevin's office on their way to and from interviews (no appointment necessary).

After School reading Labs - Term 3

Thank you to those who indicated they would like their children to continue labs into term 3. We are getting things organised already and will be improving the programme in a number of ways based on our term 2 experiences.

Hearing and Vision Tests

.. took place this week. New Entrant and Year 7 children were assessed along with children who presented earlier as a concern. Parents will be advised directly where further action is required.

Dental Caravan

Remember that messages for the diagnostic clinic can be left at the school office. Where a message is left, your child should be seen within a week. For more urgent cases please phone the Whangarei Hospital on 4700012.

Portfolios

As mentioned portfolios will be issued on Monday. It is intended that these further inform you of your child's progress in key areas of learning and that they form the basis of discussion at mid-year interviews. It is absolutely crucial that impressions on your child's progress and attainment are not based on data alone. While portfolios are more challenging to read than tables of numbers, portfolio samples can "speak a thousand words" - identifying gains and hinting at possible next steps.

If you have not already done so please ..

.. set aside a special time to view this with them - **ACTUALLY MAKE A SPECIAL APPOINTMENT WITH EACH CHILD**

.. ask them what they are **most proud of** (the portfolios have a boast section at the back)

.. ask them to show you their **greatest area(s) of improvement**

.. have a look at their Learner Journey sheet to see how they have progressed against the goals they (and you) set at the beginning of the year.

.. **be POSITIVE**. Praise them for their gains and tell them how proud you are of them.

.. show them how much they have improved compared with earlier samples (left hand leaf - most recent samples right hand leaf)

.. ask them where they would most like to improve and note this down

.. **note down any impressions you would like to further discuss with their teacher at mid-year interviews.**

.. this year portfolios contain new inserts which describe the national standards applicable (Reading, Writing and Mathematics) at your child's level of schooling. These describe some of the key things an average NZ child should be able to do and gives you some useful tips on how you can help at home.

Please remember to bring portfolios with you to interviews.

Mid Year Data Reports

.. will be handed to you at interviews. These reports contain SOME of the assessment data that teachers collect over time and are a useful complement to portfolios. As well as the regular tables showing results against national norms, these reports now contain a table showing each child's performance against the National Standards. The National Standards require teachers to make an overall judgement (based on a wide range of data and observations) of whether your child is below, at or above the standards for their age. For junior children this information is only provided on the 12th, 24th or 36th month anniversary of their arrival at school. For other children it is provided at the mid and end points of their year of schooling. To learn more about the standards parents are encouraged to read over the National Standard inserts in each child's portfolio or to contact their child's teacher. Please note that the standards are new (as are our processes for assessing and reporting on these) and so we are also learning as we go.

Early closure

.. remember that school finishes at 2:30 PM on 11 and 12 July to provide a brief break before parent / teacher interviews. Please note that buses will run approximately 30-45 minutes early on these days. Parents who pick their children up from school are asked to do so at this earlier time please.

Mid year Interviews

If you have not yet received confirmation of your interview time please phone Helen on Monday morning. If interview days did not suit please note that teachers are highly available by appointment in the new term. Interviews are of **15 minutes duration** and so please remember to move promptly on the bell as delays in arrival and departure times tend to compound over the day (a minute or so lost here or there can add up to a 5-10 minute loss of time for someone else later in the day).

School Science Fair

.. will be open for viewing in the school hall 11 to 13 July. We encourage families to drop by on their way to or from mid year interviews to take a look at exhibits and perhaps participate in some activities. Prize Giving will take place at 7:00 PM in the hall (children receiving awards will be advised beforehand).

This year's science fair is sponsored by OMAK MEATS.

Innovations Art Display

Room 9 Innovations class will have their art work on display in the Library during Week 11. We encourage all families to drop by and look at this awesome art work.

Preparation for the International Schools Maths and English Exams

Please assist by ensuring that at least one practice paper is completed each week – some children are lagging behind here. We suggest you keep a record of scores so you can monitor progress. With just over one month to the English Exam (Tuesday 2 August) children should be gaining some momentum with their preparations. We will issue practice papers for the holidays. This year the English Exam falls on the second day of the new term and so it is more important than usual that parents supervise practice sessions over the holidays.

High Vis Vests

Thanks to Helen we have acquired some additional vests which are on sale at the school office for the very low price of \$3.00 each (various sizes).

Lost Property – There is a mountain of lost property. Please drop by to claim any lost items.

Items remaining on the final day of school will be donated to charities.

Guitar Lessons

Vacancies available on Thursday's and Friday's after school. Contact Vangie 0211883251 or 4347573.

Situations Vacant

Programme Manager required for SKIDS Matarau After School and Holiday Programmes, daily after school 2.30 – 6.00, Holidays 8.00am-6.00pm, please contact Caylee Grant – SKIDS Programme Co-ordinator, 09 5766602, 021 2877170, caylee@skids.co.nz



Community Notices

Ruatangata B Boys Hockey Team – is looking for a couple more players, boys need to be in yrs 6, 7 or 8 and are available for training on Wednesday from 4-5pm and Fridays for the games (either 4pm or 5pm) If you are interested please phone Julie on 4357484.

Strengthening Step Families – Family Works is presenting a programme to help maximise stepfamilies' chance of success. Commencing Thur 4 August – 8th September 6.00pm – 8.30pm, \$30 per couple. For more info phone 4376729

Nail & Spray Tanning – Get ready for the Matarau Masquerade Ball. \$25 for spray tan, \$40 for nails. Phone Trudy for a deal, 4353315.

The Farm's Mean As Boys and Sweet As Girls Camps are on again this holidays This is the mid winter mud camp with all the usual activities, dirtbikes, horses, farm stuff, shooting and fishing, campfires, games and more, but with a focus on dirtbikes. Special slippery conditions training for those with their own bikes. Boys the 1st week, girls the 2nd week. Monday to Friday, Local schools discount \$300. Phone The Farm 4336894 www.thefarm.co.nz.

Pakotai Community Fundraiser – Tour of Kauri Gum Museum, Sat 9 July, Viewing by invitation only. For more info contact Sally on 4331594 or Pakotai School on 4331727 or email office@pakotai.school.nz. All proceeds to Pakotai School Camp.

Dyslexia Awareness Week – Address by Laughton King, Educational, Child & Family Psychologist, who is dyslexic, Wednesday 10th August, 7-9pm, St Johns Church, Kamo Rd, Door charge \$5 per person.

ASB Holiday Fun Football – Children 7-11, Mon 25th July to Fri 29th July, 9.30-12.30 daily, \$24 per session or \$90 for the week. Term 3 football available for 4-8yrs olds, Kamo High School, Gym 2, Wilkinson Ave. for more info on either activity contact Christina on 4377294 or email Christina.taylor@nff.org.nz. To register either pay-on-line www.nff.org.nz

Kids Duathlon - Saturday 16 July, the first Grid Kids Duathlon to be held alongside the International Rally of Whangarei, Pohe Island. Enjoy a fun day out. For more information visit www.rallywhangarei.co.nz and www.gridkids.co.nz

RockStar Holiday Half day activity - An exciting and rewarding activity packaged for the school holidays Location: Tutukaka. This activity is based around 4 hours of recording session for 4-5 children (8yr old plus) where each child will have the opportunity to prepare, rehearse and record a known song to add their individual talent to. The completed work will be transferred to a USB stick for each child to take home. Minimum of 4 participants. Parents welcome to sit in or leave their children with us. Price and more info on www.universalrecords.co.nz or Swamp Studio 09 434 4414.

Marsden Bay Holiday Camp - Sun 17th July 2pm - Fri 22nd July 10am, \$160 per child, \$300 for two, \$370 for three in same family, lots of outdoor activities, Secret Agent 007 costume Party. To register or for further information contact Helena Lamason 09 4447456 or email hlamason@hotmail.com

School Holiday Cricket Program - 18-27 July, 10-3pm for 2 days, \$30 per day 8-13 yrs. Bellahomes Northland Cricket Centre. Ph 438 2400 or www.northcricket.co.nz

Best wishes

.. to Mrs Donaldson who takes maternity leave from the commencement of term 3. We will let you know when the newest addition to the Donaldson family has arrived. Thanks Katie for your hard work this term. As earlier advised, Miss Downey is geared up to ensure a smooth transition in Room 10 and we are looking forward to having her back on board.

And Finally

Thank you to staff, parents and children for all of your hard work this term. School has been a great place to be this term with plenty of positive things to celebrate each and every day. We wish you all a safe and enjoyable time together over the forthcoming holidays and look forward to seeing you all again in the new term (or before). Final day of term 15 July. First day of the new term 1 August. No newsletter next week. Take care.

Regards

Kevin Trehwella
PRINCIPAL

Our Sponsors support your
children, please support them



Comrie Park Kindergarten

“Nga kakano apopo – The seeds of tomorrow”

We will be opening on Monday 1 August. Our session times are 8.30am – 2.45pm, Monday – Thursday and 8.30am – 12.45pm on Fridays. We welcome all enquiries and enrolments, please phone 4335045 or simply call in.

Our teaching team are Anna Thorpe, Paula Shaw, Angie Moselen and support staff Kim Butterfield.

STILL TIME TO RAISE FUNDS - CASH FOR SCHOOLS BOBBY CALF FUND RAISING PROGRAMME

If you haven't yet registered for AFFCO's Cash for Schools bobby calf fund raising programme, or if you've lost your registration form, don't worry - there is still time to get in behind this great programme and raise funds for the school. Last year AFFCO donated more than \$80,000 through Cash for Schools. This year it's putting on extra calf collections to make things easier for farmers during the busy spring period. To find out how you can get involved, phone 0800 722 422 today. Remember the donations are made over and above what AFFCO pays you for your bobby calves but you need to register before the school can benefit.

Annual Matarau School Trivia Night

(20 August 2011)

If anyone is able to help with finding sponsorship or prizes for Trivia Night to contact Wendy Francis or Jane Martin , please contact Wendy on 435 4659 or Jane on 433 5967.

One week to go

MATARAU SCHOOL PROUDLY PRESENTS THE MIDWINTER MASQUERADE BALL



Party the night away at the 4th Annual
Matarau School Fundraiser

Date: 16th July 2011

Time: 7.30 – 12.30

Band: Kamel

(over 20 years only)

Tickets: School Office/Wild Poppy

\$30 single \$60 double

Light supper will be served

With a licensed cash bar

Complimentary return bus leaving from Kamo 4 Square at 6.30pm, travelling to
Ruatangata hall with pick ups on the way and return.

Bookings essential ph 4353002

Get your tickets now!

Character Descriptions of Charlotte from Charlotte's Web - Room 3

Charlotte the spider has to concentrate on her web at night. Her web is white as sparkly diamonds. She is a trapper. She sucks the flies blood and she is nocturnal. She is creepy and she has eight legs. Her web is shiny as can be. She is supposed to be working and her web is shimmery like stars and her web shines in the sun.

Hanna Smith

Charlotte has eight brown legs and she is brown. She catches her food by making her shiny web. She concentrates on her web at night. She is a nocturnal spider. She spins gleaming webs. It shines and it sticks on the fly. It spins like a sun. It twinkles like a star. And it swirls around the spider and it is invisible at night.

Cassie Stevenson

Stories from Room 5

Once upon a time an owl went to Antarctica.

The owl; was a Boo Owl. The Boo Owl was pink, blue and purple. But then it turned into a Snow Owl that had orange and green with a spiderman picture on it.

The Snow Owl never went to the snow.

At night the owl was a Snow Owl, at day the owl was a Boo Owl.

By Joshua Main

Once upon a time there was a race.

"Zroom!" Said the red car and the green car.

The cars zoomed past the trees and bridges but a yellow car was going toward the bridge and went into the water. They got a long way but got stuck in the mud.

"Ha ha!" All the people in the race said.

The green car got out and he played a practical joke. He used a set of pins and put them on the floor for the next lap. And...bang, bang, bang. Three cars ran over the pins. There were 23 cars in the race. Now the green car cried and said, "Oh no", as he came past.

Now there are 20 cars, but the crowd cried.."GO, GO, GO, GO, GO"

The boys won and the girls smashed onto the walls.

First was Crawford, second was sooky, third was Corned.

By Robbie Jarman